

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

I. CLAIM STATUS AND AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-47 were pending in this application when last examined.

Claims 39, 40 and 42 are amended to clarify the claimed invention.

A) In amended claim 39, claims 19 and 29 are joined to claim 39.

Further support may be found as follows:

- (1) "a nucleic acid" is based on original claim 22;
- (2) "which is lipid assembly, liposome, an emulsion particle or a polymeric micelle" is based on paragraph [0022] and [0039] of the specification;
- (3) "an anionic polymer" is based on paragraph [0058] of the specification;
- (4) "(i) one or more substance(s) selected from polyethylene glycolated lipids, polyethylene glycol sorbitan fatty acid esters, polyethylene glycol fatty acid esters, polyglycerolated lipids, polyglycerol fatty acid esters, polyoxyethylene polypropylene glycol, glycerol fatty acid esters and polyethylene glycol alkyl ethers," is based on original claim 25; and
- (5) "(ii) a cationic substance" is based on original claim 26 and paragraph [0041] of the specification, in view of a nucleic acid being an anionic substance.

B) In amended claims 39, 40 and 42, "a lipid membrane" is based on original claim 41.

Claims 48-50 are herein added.

New claim 48 is based on original claim 21.

New claim 49 is based on original claim 23.

New claim 50 is based on paragraph [0067] of the specification.

Claims 1-38, 41 and 43-47 are herein cancelled.

No new matter has been added.

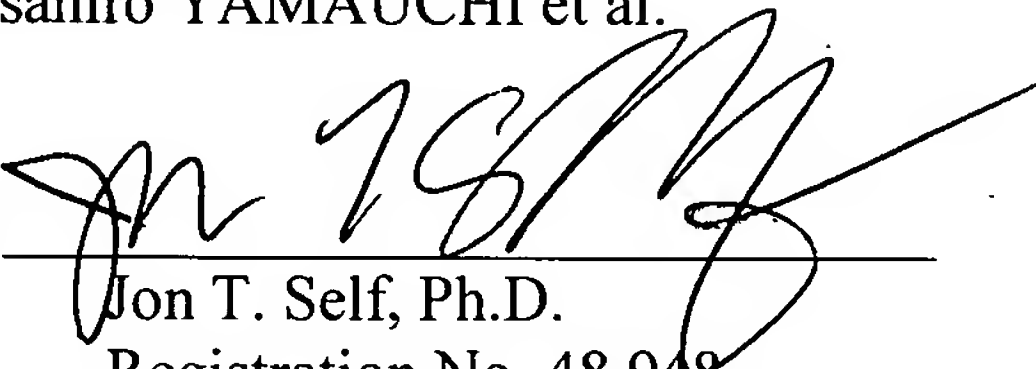
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is hereby requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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